

# OKLAHOMA CROP PRODUCTION

## 2000 CROP REVIEW

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Oklahoma wheat growers maintained the trend of recent years by diversifying into other crops. The steady downward slide in wheat planted acres began after the 1991 crop. Harvested acres in 2000, at 4.2 million, were the lowest since 1972. Boosted by the seventh highest yield in Oklahoma history, production of the state's number one crop reached 142.8 million bushels. Mild temperatures and good spring rainfall helped wheat growth and development. Harvest began in mid-May and was essentially completed statewide by mid-July.

Production of other small grains had diverse results. Production of oats decreased 49 percent from 1999 to the second lowest production on record. Rye production increased 41 percent from the previous year and eclipsed one million bushels for the fourth straight year. Oklahoma's percentage share of total U.S. rye production increased to a record high of 17 percent. Oklahoma dropped barley from the estimating program beginning in 2000.

Production of most row crops was down significantly from last year. This can mostly be attributed to drought conditions. The corn crop decreased 7 percent from last year's highest production since 1932. An average yield of 140 bushels per acre was down 5 bushels from the previous year but still the third highest yield on record. Production of grain sorghum decreased 24 percent from 1999 to the third lowest production since 1956. Cotton production increased 6 percent from the previous year. Cotton yield exceeded 500 pounds per acre for the second time in over 100 years of record keeping. Soybean production decreased 32 percent from 1999 to the lowest level in 10 years. Soybean yield was the lowest in 20 years. Peanut production was at the lowest level since 1957, while average yield was the lowest in 20 years.

Hay production totaled 4.9 million tons and was the sixth highest production since records were first maintained in 1909. Alfalfa production decreased 14 percent from 1999. Production of all other hay increased one percent to 3.78 million tons, the highest output on record.

Minor crop production was down from the previous year. Production of watermelons decreased 38 percent from 1999 to the lowest level since records were reintroduced in 1992. Pecans, at 2.5 million pounds, was down significantly from last year's record high of 63 million pounds. An April frost nipped many peach trees causing production to decrease for the second straight year.